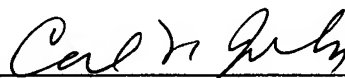


Shaw B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Robert W. Ratte Attorney file: 5782
Serial No.: 10/606,917 Examiner: Ling, Lin Hour
Filed: 06/26/2003 Group: 1725
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF FORMING PARTS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 5-27-04 by applicant's attorney, Carl L. Johnson.



Carl L. Johnson

5-27-04

Date

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
PURSUANT TO RULE 37 CFR 1.312**

Sir:

REMARKS

The Applicant has received and reviewed the Notice of Allowance dated May 6, 2004 wherein the Office allowed Applicant's claim 10. In the Office's statement of reasons for allowance of Applicant's claim 10, the Office stated that:

"The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest a method of pressure casting a lead article comprising the step of: increasing the pressure of a source of molten lead sufficiently to force the molten lead to flow in a liquid state into the mold; and closing a runner to said mold cavity while maintaining said molten lead in a closed system to prevent entrapment of air in the molten lead as a fresh charge of molten lead is introduced into the closed system." (See page 2, lines 10-15 of the Notice of Allowance.)